

House Resolution 58

By: Representatives Burnough of the 77th, Stephenson of the 90th, Jones of the 53rd, Hopson of the 153rd, and Metze of the 55th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Commending Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and recognizing February 25, 2019, as Delta Day at the state capitol; and for other purposes.
- 3 WHEREAS, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., is a public service organization founded on January 13, 1913, by 22 visionary women at Howard University in Washington, D.C.; and
- 5 WHEREAS, the founding members included Osceola Macarthy Adams, Marguerite Young Alexander, Winona Cargile Alexander, Ethel Cuff Black, Bertha Pitts Campbell, Zephyr Chisom Carter, Edna Brown Coleman, Jessie McGuire Dent, Frederica Chase Dodd, Myra Davis Hemmings, Olive Jones, Jimmie Bugg Middleton, Pauline Oberdorfer Minor, Vashti Turley Murphy, Naomi Sewell Richardson, Mamie Reddy Rose, Eliza P. Shippen, Florence Letcher Toms, Ethel Carr Watson, Wertie Blackwell Weaver, Madree Penn White, and Edith Motte Young; and
- 12 WHEREAS, only weeks after its founding, the sorority's first public act of service was participation in the women's suffrage movement, demanding rights for women, particularly the right to vote; and
- 15 WHEREAS, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., is a sisterhood of college educated women dedicated to academic excellence and committed to providing assistance; and
- 17 WHEREAS, more than 200,000 women have joined the organization to implement the sorority's mission through its five-point programmatic thrust of educational development, economic development, political awareness and involvement, physical and mental health, and international awareness and involvement; and
- 21 WHEREAS, the sorority has more than 1,000 collegiate and alumnae chapters located in the United States as well as internationally, such as in Germany, England, Japan, the Virgin

23 Islands, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and the Republic of Korea, and recently commemorated 106
24 years of exemplary service; and

25 WHEREAS, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., has instituted the Georganna Sinkfield
26 Servant Leadership Award in recognition of her service as the longest serving female in the
27 history of the Georgia General Assembly; the Pota E. Coston Trailblazer Award named for
28 the first African American female commissioner elected in Fayette County, Georgia; and the
29 Social Action Collegiate Change Agent Award given to a student actively involved in student
30 government association leadership or with partner organizations who demonstrates a clear
31 ability to create change in either the campus or community environment; and

32 WHEREAS, members of this illustrious sisterhood serve as elected officials, lend support
33 to various local communities, lead dialogues on public safety issues such as gun control,
34 support quality education efforts, generate new projects that stimulate current and future
35 economic growth, including home ownership and becoming debt-free, and vastly improve
36 the lives of people throughout their communities; and

37 WHEREAS, members are committed to initiatives in alignment with its biennial theme of
38 "Joy in our Sisterhood, Power in our Voice, and Service in our Heart," providing exciting
39 opportunities to engage in artistic endeavors such as the national Pride in Our Heritage Tour;
40 and

41 WHEREAS, numerous individuals have contributed to the successful legacy of Delta Sigma
42 Theta Sorority.

43 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
44 the members of this body commend Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., for its continued
45 commitment to public service and recognize February 25, 2019, as Delta Day at the state
46 capitol.

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
48 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Delta
49 Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.